



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

2014.2015

SEASON OF EVENTS

Accordin' to Joe

Tuesday, September 30, 2014

7:00 p.m. Walter Hall

Edward Johnson Building

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ACCORDIN' TO JOE

Celebrating Joe Marcerollo's 70th Birthday and his
appointment as Officer of the Order of Canada

PROGRAM

Carl Maria von Weber
(1786-1826)

Finale from *Konzertstück* in F minor Op. 79
Alex Sevastian, accordion

Maurizio Kagel
(1931-2008)

***Pandora's Box* (1960)**
Eugene Laskiewicz, accordion

Alexina Louie
(b.1949)

Refuge
Michael Bridge, accordion
Johanna Weinholts, harp
Jonathan Smith, vibraphone

John Torcello

Video compilation

Anna Höstman
(b.1972)

***Paisley for accordion and saxophone* (World Premiere)**
Ina Henning, accordion
Wallace Halladay, saxophone

Petar-Kresimir Klanac
(b.1971)

***Jeux á vendre for two voices and accordion* (2010)**
Xin Wang, Krisztina Szabo, voices
John Lettieri, accordion

John Zorn
(b.1953)

Road Runner
Branko Dzinovic, accordion



JOSEPH MACEROLLO divides his musical life into three activities: performing, educating and organizing/fund raising. As an educator, he pioneered the acceptance of the accordion at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto and at Queen's University in Kingston. He has lectured, given workshops, written articles and reviews of concerts and taught history of music, analysis, and the interpretation of contemporary music courses. At the moment, he is instructing his first doctoral candidate from Germany in performance at the University of Toronto. As an administrator, he served on the board of directors of New Music Concerts, Pro Arte Orchestra and The Classical Accordion Society of Canada Inc., was founding director of the Mississauga Arts Council. He is a founding member of the International Accordion Society headquartered in Finland. He was an organizer of the International Accordion Celebration in 1993, a masterful integration of the classical accordion into the musical life of Toronto. Previous organizational accomplishments include LUMINA Project 1989, Soundscape Canada 1981, and the International Accordion Symposium 1975. In 1997, he produced R. Murray Schafer's *Princess of the Stars* at Wildcat Lake, Haliburton. In 2001 and 2006 he produced R. Murray Schafer's *Palace of the Cinnabar Phoenix* in the Haliburton

Forest and Wildlife Reserve and in 2002 and 2005 he produced R. Murray Schafer's *The Enchanted Forest*. He is presently Development Officer of Off Centre Music Salon and on the board of directors of New Music Concerts and on the juries of the Toronto Arts Council.

He has won numerous awards and citations, has represented Canada in two world accordion championships, received the Guelph Civic Ring in 1964 and was named Mississauga Musician of the Year in 1987. In December 2005 he was awarded a commemorative silver disc by the Russian Accordion Federation for his outstanding work in recognition of the concert accordion worldwide. In May 2009, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Toronto Musicians' Association. In 2013 he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada for his contribution to the arts.

As a performer, he has appeared with major orchestras such as the Toronto Symphony, McGill Chamber Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Windsor Symphony, Victoria Symphony, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, National Ballet of Canada Orchestra, Canadian Opera Company Orchestra and such major ensembles as Nexus Percussion Ensemble, Orford String Quartet, Purcell String Quartet and countless ensembles of variable combinations. He has performed extensively throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. In 1998 he joined Quartetto Gelato and continued until 2002. He has worked with Teresa Stratas, Luciano Pavarotti, The Three Tenors and Henry Mancini.

He has commissioned over 200 works by Canadian composers ranging in style from traditional to theatrical, where he has gained respect as a performer for the instrument in all venues.

His textbook, *The Accordion Resource Manual*, stands as a marvelous achievement of methodology and scholarship and is widely used by composers and researchers for insights into the instrument.

BIOGRAPHIES

One of the most versatile soloists on the scene, Canadian accordion champion **Michael Bridge** has a unique ability to fuse classical, pop-rock, jazz and world music. He made his solo orchestral debut with the Boston Pops at age 16, and has performed in China, Croatia, Italy, France, the U.K., and across North America. While maintaining a busy schedule of 100 concerts annually, Michael is in his fourth year of undergraduate studies in accordion performance at the University of Toronto with Professor Joseph Macerollo. He is a captivating young musician— boldly redefining the sound and image of his traditional instrument. www.michaelbridgemusic.com

Branko Džinović is an accordion artist focused on contemporary repertoire. He holds a Master's degree from the Anton Bruckner Private University for Music in Linz, Austria, and is currently pursuing a DMA degree at the University of Toronto, with Joseph Macerollo. Džinović has participated in numerous accordion competitions; records for Radio Belgrade, Radio Austria 1, and the BBC; and tours internationally as a soloist and chamber musician. An avid proponent of avant-garde music, he has shared the stage with improvisers such as Pavel Fajt, Mia Zabelka, and many more. Mr. Džinović also composes in various genres, including soundtracks for two award-winning short films.

Saxophonist **Wallace Halladay** is at home in numerous styles, from the traditional to jazz and beyond. A specialist in the performance of contemporary music, he has commissioned and premiered numerous works. A soloist with the Vancouver Symphony and Esprit Orchestras, he also inaugurated the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony's "Intersections" Series. He recorded the two saxophone *Sequenzas* of Berio and the Colgrass concerto for NAXOS. He is in demand as a performer with new music groups across Canada and the US. Wallace holds a doctorate from the Eastman School of Music, and studied at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam with Arno Bornkamp. He has taught at Memorial University and the Eastman School of Music, and presently teaches at the University of Toronto. Wallace was the 2009 recipient of the prestigious Virginia Parker Prize from the Canada Council for the Arts. Wallace is a Conn-Selmer Artist and plays Selmer (Paris) saxophones.

German born **Ina Henning** maintains a busy career in three different fields, music performance, music pedagogy and music therapy. She finished

her undergraduate studies as a double major in accordion and piano performance in 2004 when she won two stipends with the German Academic Exchange Service. She completed a Master's Degree in Performance under Joseph Macerollo at the University of Toronto in 2006. She obtained another Master of Arts Degree in Music Therapy at the Faculty of Applied Sciences in Heidelberg in 2008. Artistic appearances include Carnegie Hall, Stuttgart State Opera, Radio Symphony Orchestra Stuttgart and many venues in Toronto. In 2013 Ina completed her Doctorate of Music under Macerollo and was offered a teaching position at the University of Education in Ludwigsburg, where she teaches applied music, intercultural music studies and musicology. An encyclopedia article on Stefan Wolpe is in preparation.

Eugene Laskiewicz's diverse career includes musical performance, conducting, examining, education and administration. Eugene received his Bachelor of Music degree from Queen's University and Master of Music and Bachelor of Education degrees from the University of Toronto. At Queen's and Toronto he studied accordion with Joseph Macerollo. Eugene was the first accordionist to participate in the prestigious Gaudeamus Music Competition for Interpreters of Contemporary Music. Touring in Europe, he performed solo recitals, radio broadcasts and was featured in orchestral and chamber music settings. During his career with the Peel District School Board, Eugene was a classroom teacher as well as Director of Streetsville International Languages, a Kindergarten to OAC International Languages School where he was responsible for curriculum planning and teacher development. As a staff musician at The Stratford Shakespearean Festival, Eugene has performed in over twenty-seven productions and has been a Music Consultant and conductor of the Festival Theatre Drama Orchestra.

Currently, **John Lettieri** is a Music Educator and Department Head of Arts at Saint Elizabeth Catholic High School in Thornhill, Ontario. In addition, he is an active performing artist participating in many festivals held throughout the year. Over the many years, John has appeared on television and film and enjoys playing the accordion commercially. John studied with Joseph Macerollo, first at the Royal Conservatory of Music and then at the University of Toronto, from 1974 to 1984, and has continued to be inspired by Joe's artistry, teaching, and friendship. Happy Birthday Joe!

The world accordion champion 2007 **Alexander Sevastian** studied with Joseph for 1 year in 2002-2003. He also joined Quartetto Gelato the same year after Joe's retirement. Alex has toured all the provinces in Canada as well as almost every state in the USA. The solo tours include more than 100 recitals in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario. He has collaborated with Gino Quilico and Natalie McMaster. Alex has 5 solo CDs and records exclusively for Anakekta label.

Toronto-based percussionist **Jonny Smith** is an avid performer of new and contemporary music. His solo concerts have been described as "phenomenal and surprising, even from a performer who is already known for eclectic and diverse performances." (M. Wightman, The Argosy) Jonny rehearses and performs regularly with Spectrum, a percussion quartet which he co-founded in October 2013. Spectrum's debut concert last April met with critical acclaim and the ensemble is now preparing for a new season of local concerts and touring. Jonny is also a founding member of the marimba duo Taktus with percussionist Greg Harrison. Taktus is currently working on recording an album of their own arrangements of Ann Southam's seminal work Glass Houses. After finishing a Master of Music degree at the University of Toronto in 2012, Jonny was awarded the Launch Pad for Emerging Talent in the Arts grant from the U of T Arts Council.

Ms. **Krisztina Szabó** exemplifies today's modern singer: she is vocally versatile, possesses excellent stage prowess and paints vivid character portraits on both the opera and concert stages. She sings frequently at the Canadian Opera Company in diverse roles such as Idamante (*Idomeneo*), Musetta (*La bohème*), and The Pilgrim (Saariaho's *Love from Afar*). This season's performances include appearances with Tapestry New Opera, Music of the Baroque (Chicago), Early Music Vancouver, Calgary Opera, Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Vancouver Bach Choir. She will sing the role of The Woman in *Erwartung* with the COC in May 2015.

Winner of the 'Coupe Mondiale' (1972), **John Torcello** obtained a Bachelor of Music in Composition degree from the University of Toronto (1978); and a MBA from Woodbury University (1996). Playing as part of the orchestra, John regularly appears with the LA Philharmonic, LA Phil New Music Group, LA Opera, Pasadena Pops, Pacific Symphony, and Long Beach Opera;

at Walt Disney Concert Hall, Disney RedCat, Dorothy Chandler Music Center, Hollywood Bowl, Segerstrom Concert Hall, and Japan America Theater; under conductors, Tilson-Thomas, Mehta, Rattle, Adès, Salonen, Dudamel, Worby, St. Clair, Mitisek, and Wilkins; in works by DelTredici, Berg, Kagel, Simons, Golijov, Ades, Weill, Mancini, Zappa, Dean, Piazzolla, Baltakas, Grever, Bernstein, Piaf, Eötvös, Ortiz, and Dankner. John's professional background includes record production, TV/Film post-production, establishing/operating a DVD business; volunteering with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, Daniel Pearl Foundation, 2008 Obama Campaign, and the UofT Alumni Association's Mentorship Program.

A native of China, Canadian soprano **Xin Wang** completed her Bachelor degree at the University of Winnipeg before moving to Toronto, where she graduated from both the Opera Division and the Artist Diploma Programme at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. She has distinguished herself as an acclaimed performer of contemporary music, having worked with Canadian and international composers Jeff Rayn, Melissa Hui, Christopher Butterfield, Jacques Bank, Karin Rehnqvist, Chan Ka Nin, James Rolfe, Ana Sokoloviae, Jurg Wyttenbach and Steve Reich, among others. Her most recent 2010 performances are Opera to Go with Tapestry Opera New Works and the North Western Ontario tour of *Pimoteewin*, the first Cree opera (Melissa Hui composer, Thompson Highway, librettist), premiered by Soundstreams Canada in February 2008.

Johanna Wienholts is an up-and-coming harpist recognized for her expressive playing and powerful presence on the stage. Johanna is currently a fourth-year classical harp performance major at University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. She attended Interlochen Arts Academy, where she studied with Joan Holland, professor of harp at University of Michigan. Johanna moved to Toronto to study with the renowned Judy Loman. In her solo playing, Johanna delights in playing all styles of classical music: Baroque, Romantic, and Contemporary. She has given solo recitals in both the United States and Canada and was the winner of the Toronto chapter of the American Harp Society Scholarship Competition in the ARCT division. Johanna has been featured in many of the large ensembles at U of T and has experience recording for film and other genres of music, including hip-hop, jazz, and folk.



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This evening's program would not be possible without the generous support of donors to the Faculty of Music. The Chamber Music Program is thriving with exciting work happening on stage and in the classroom. For the stage, we have appearances on the Monday Evening Concert Series by both Ensembles in Residence and Visiting Artists. In the classroom, in addition to their regularly scheduled lessons and coachings, our students have the opportunity to work with our visitors in master classes and private coaching sessions.

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